

### Living Prayer

"Teach us to pray" the disciples asked Jesus...Prayer is one of those things we never stop learning about. I was reminded of it last year when we studied "The Workbook of Living Prayer" by Maxie Dunnam. In the company of a group of wonderful people, I rediscovered some things I would like to share with you.



First, although there is a natural tendency in every human being to pray-usually when we are in trouble- we are called to pray at all times, to pray without ceasing, to put ourselves deliberately in the presence of God and give him all of our attention. Unless we do this, living prayer is likely not to happen. So, we must discipline ourselves and use every situation and interruption to pray. We must learn to consciously relate ALL of life to God.

Second, if you are looking for ways to take care of yourself, prayer is number one. John Wesley once wrote, "Whether you like it or not, read and pray daily. It is for your life; there is no other way; else you will be a trifler all your days...Do justice to your soul; give it time and means to grow. Do not starve yourself any longer."

Third, prayer is a mystery. How is that if three of us agree to pray about something, our Father will hear and respond? We don't know. It appears that things happen when we pray that wouldn't happen if we didn't. A special power is released when we pray. I believe it's the power of God in action when we come together to do His will. Maxie Dunnam writes, "It appears that God has so ordered life and the world that our praying is a vital part of the redemptive plan for individuals and the entire universe."

Fourth, Intercession is a ministry of love. Dunnam shares that Clarence Jordan in his Cotton Patch Gospel version of the New Testament, translates 2 Cor.5:19: "In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself..." in this fashion: "God was in Christ, **hugging** the world to Himself." That's what we do when we pray for others. We put our arms around them, around that situation, community or the world and **hug** them to ourselves and to God in love. It's a mystery, too, because when we do it something happens in those for whom we pray and in us.

Finally, God's heart yearns to be with us in complete and uninterrupted communion. Based on Augustine's writing "There's a place in our hearts that only God can fill and our hearts are restless until they rest in Him" Dunnam invites us to consider that "There's a place in God's heart that only WE can fill and His heart is restless until WE rest in Him...."

In Love,

Lali Palmer



The Men of Courage Bible Study Group will be meeting each Monday evening in the Worship Center at 7:00 p.m.

We are reading "The Resolution for Men" study book by Kendrick/Alcorn. You may be able to purchase this book as either an eBook or an iBook for your electronic reader.

Invite a friend and we'll see you there.

For more information, contact Greg Comer at greg.comer@graceconway.org.

### Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm



### Lenten Luncheons

Grace church, Union Baptist and Salem UMC will be co-hosting the First Lenten Lunch for this year on Thursday, Feb. 23 at 12pm at Grace's Fellowship Hall.

Everyone is invited!

- \* March 02- World Day of Prayer @ 9:30am at Four Winds Fellowship Hall. Co-host First Christian & Sharon Rapp.
- \* March 08- First UMC @ 12. Co-host Christ Temple.
- \* March 15- First Presbyterian @ 12. Co-host First Christian
- \* March 22- St. Peter's Episcopal @ 12. Co-host St. James CME.
- \* March 29- Wesley UMC @ 12. Co-host Ebenezer UMC & Four Winds.



### Steven Curtis Chapman Songs & Stories Tour

Friday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 pm at First Baptist Church, Benton, AR.

Tickets available at www.iTickets.com

## MISSION POSSIBLE

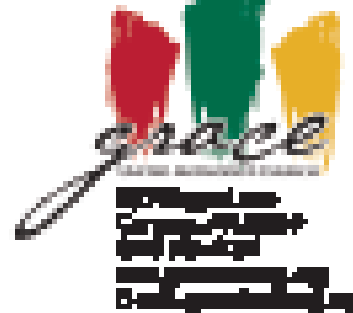
MARK YOUR CALENDAR... FEBRUARY 5 IS MISSION SUNDAY

The Grace U.M.C. Missions Committee invites you to join with us in kicking off our 2012 Missions campaign, MISSION POSSIBLE! Through Christ, all things are possible. We ask that

you remember the needy each month when you kneel for the Lord's Supper with a monetary gift to help the needy around the corner and around the world.

### February Missions Spotlight Wesley Methodist Bread Basket

For 2012, we are partnering with our sister church, Wesley U.M.C., to provide a much-needed helping hand for their food pantry as they work to fill a critical need in our community. On the first Sunday of each month, you are invited to bring items or a monetary donation to support the food pantry. Non-perishable food items; e.g., coffee, breakfast cereal, granola bars, canned tuna, chicken, soup, fruit, and other canned goods, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter. All missions donations received February 5<sup>th</sup> will be given to Wesley Methodist Bread Basket unless otherwise specified.



February 2012

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### Who is Grace Church?

We exist to help you develop into a spiritually mature follower of Jesus Christ. As Jesus, you can grow in your understanding of the Christian faith, experience the presence of God through worship and small groups, and become the hands and feet of Jesus as God's chosen people in our community and around the world through you.

### Reaching People

### Growing Faith



"Our mission is to develop spiritually mature disciples of Jesus Christ (around the corner and around the world)."

### Changing Lives



### McGee's Closet

Check it ONLINE at [graceconway.org](http://graceconway.org)!

McGee's Closet is a **Medical Closet**; a virtual closet with a listing of the item(s) and the owner of such item(s) and how a person in need could get in touch with the owner. Its items you'd be willing to loan to someone in need for a short period of time. If you are interested, or you have items to add to our Medical Closet, please contact **Chuck Carter at 327-0645** or [elaine2chuck@sbcglobal.net](mailto:elaine2chuck@sbcglobal.net), or **Bill Buchanan at 329-1117** and we'll add your name and items to our virtual closet list. If you need one of these items in our virtual Medical Closet, please contact the owner.



**NEEDED: Walker with Seat.**

### Nursery Worker Needed

for Sunday mornings and some Wednesday nights. Interested? please, contact Christy Lemmer at [christy.lemmer@graceconway.org](mailto:christy.lemmer@graceconway.org)



### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> in the morning  
Grace Parking Lot



**FEBRUARY 05<sup>th</sup>** - "Waiting on the Promises" Isaiah 40:27-31  
**FEBRUARY 12<sup>th</sup>** - "How Much Does God Love Us?" John 3:14-21. Bro. Greg Comer.  
**FEBRUARY 19<sup>th</sup>** - "It's Good to be Here" Mark 9:2-9

**FEBRUARY 26<sup>th</sup>** - "40 Days in the Wilderness" Mark 1:9-15



### January Giving and Attendance

Date	Attendance	Giving
01/01/12	195	\$8,761.00
01/08/12	266	\$8,347.00
01/15/12	268	\$10,207.56
01/17/12 ACH	--	\$2,950.00
01/22/12	259	\$7,974.15
<b>January Avg.</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>\$ 9,559.93</b>
<b>YTD Funds Received</b>		<b>\$ 36,619.71</b>
<b>Needed Weekly Giving</b>		<b>\$ 11,690.00</b>
<b>Budget Needs for 2012</b>		<b>\$ 607,859.00</b>

### Grace United Methodist Church Service Times

Worship Services . . . . . Sunday: 8:30 AM (Traditional), 9:45 (Contemporary), & 11:00 AM (Blended)  
Sunday School. . . . . 9:45 AM & 11:00 AM

Childcare provided.

### The Youth Corner!



#### Grace Youth and Families:

We pray that everyone is getting into the swing of 2012 and finding their groove. Please pray about all that is going on at Grace and see where you and your family can serve and

grow. We look forward to all that is happening with the GraceYouth and encourage all the youth to get involved! We have tons of Bible studies and events to jump into!  
Mr. David

We meet Sundays & Wednesday nights. Everyone welcome! Got Questions? Ask Mr. David.

#### Upcoming events:

\**Veritas 2012* is here! 7 - 12 Grade. Feb. 24-26 in Rogers, Arkansas. Cost is \$125.00 Sign-up now outside Mr. David's Office!

\***Grace Youth Rummage Sale : Feb. 2 & 3.** Set up Thursday and Friday from 9am - 5pm. The Sale / Feb. 4 from 7am - 1pm.

**Youth Families:** We need your help! Please, donate your time and your treasures to assist in this fundraiser. This is one of two large events we do to raise money to help offset costs of ministry, camps, retreats, and missions throughout the year!

\***Valentine's Banquet 2012 : Feb. 12 @ 5:30 - 7:30pm.** This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> large Youth Fundraiser we do to aid the ministries of our youth. Please, consider how you can assist in this fundraiser!

\***OMP Sign-ups are here.** Please, speak with Mr. David about being a part of a summer mission team! There are Jr. High Camps and Sr. High Camps Available!

### Church Council

Sunday, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:10 pm in the Worship Center

### Trustees Committee

Sunday, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm in Room 117

### Finance Committee Meeting

Sunday, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00 pm in Room 112



*Valentine's Banquet Fundraiser and Silent Auction*

**Sunday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.**

Get your tickets NOW!  
We need your support. Silent Auction items needed. For more info, contact Mr. David Sutton.



Join us **Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm** for a wedding shower honoring **Brittany Braden and Chris Rutherford**. The shower will be held in the Partners and Friends Classroom (Room 109). They are registered at Target and Dillard's. For more information, contact Teresa Perryman (327-8823) or Sheila Annable (764-0427).



**Children's Choir and Music Discovery** has resumed. Come, join us! 3:30-3:55 pm for PreK-K and 4:00 pm for 1<sup>st</sup> Grade - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade



**Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012,**



we will have a **Rummage Sale**. Please, bring any donations for the sale to the church and place in Room 115. If you would like to volunteer to help, please notify Christy Lemmer or Dave Sutton.

### PARENTS NIGHT OUT

**Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> 6 - 10 p.m.**



Sign-up in the Children's Wing.  
\$15 for one child, \$25.00 for two children  
\$35.00 for three children  
**MUST PAY IN ADVANCE**  
so that we are staffed appropriately.



**KIDS with a MISSION-** We are still collecting offering in the ARK during worship. This money will go towards Children's Missions

### Children's Prayer Study

*The Way of the Child* is a Prayer Study for children grades 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 6:00 pm (Room 206). We will meet on Feb 19<sup>th</sup>, Feb 26<sup>th</sup>, March 4<sup>th</sup>, March 11<sup>th</sup>, March 25<sup>th</sup>, April 1<sup>st</sup>, April 15<sup>th</sup>, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, and April 29<sup>th</sup>.



If you are interested in your child participating, please sign up in the Children's Wing. This class is limited to 12 children.  
**Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> - The Way of the Child Mandatory Parent Meeting at 5:00 pm in Room 206.**

### SAVE THE DATES:

- \* Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> - Easter Celebration. 2-4pm
- \* Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> - Family Night. 5 - 8 pm
- \* Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> - Promotion Sunday and Bible Presentation for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders
- \* Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> - Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup> - VBS
- \* Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup> - Children and Youth Sunday

Visit our Member Section at [graceconway.org](http://graceconway.org)

Be a part of our virtual community!

Here are a few things you can do through our website:



**Join our Mailing List** and receive email updates about Grace events or prayer concerns. Update your email.

**Update your member information**  
**AccessACS** Log in to your Access account through our website to update it and connect with other people.

**PayPal** Give safely through Paypal without having to create an account!



it's for life!

This new year consider joining one of our Sunday School Classes for support, fellowship and spiritual growth.

### Sundays @ 9:45 am

- \***FaithWorks:** "Mere Christianity" by C.S. Lewis. Room 113.
- \***Open Door:** Brief lesson from the Adult Bible Studies series, humor, and positive devotional. You will leave with a glad heart. Room 117.
- \***Partners & Friends:** "The Journey" by Adam Hamilton. Room 109/111.
- \***Slinkard:** Genesis, Exodus, Luke and Galatians. Room 110.
- \***Towels & Basin:** "Acts- The Holy Spirit Unleashed in You". Room 112. Just Started!

### Sundays @ 11am

- \***Journey:** Genesis. Room 109.
- \***Serendipity:** "Be Ye Transformed; Understanding God's Truth" by Chuck and Nancy Missler. Room 112.

**UNITED METHODIST MEN** Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.  
*Valentine's Sweetheart Breakfast*  
Entertainment provided by Glenda Bell and Susan Hoggard.



### GENESIS CIRCLE UMW

Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 am  
Room 109  
All women are welcome!

*Fellowship with us this New Year!*

**Hill-Toppers** Join Hill-toppers for Lunch the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 11:30am at different restaurants. For more info, call Maurine Cooley at 329-0343. The group is open to anyone 50 years or older.



**Lunch Bunch** meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month. For more info, call Dylis Jenkins at 513-0276. This group is open to anyone who has Thursday's free for lunch and would like to join us for fellowship and breaking bread together. We eat at a different Conway restaurant each month.



**Grace Dinner Group** meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every month. Everyone is welcome! We meet to have dinner and fellowship at a different place every month. For more info, contact Charles & Peggy Yarbro.

